

Date: Wed, 16 Feb 94 18:42:16 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #162  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Wed, 16 Feb 94                      Volume 94 : Issue 162

Today's Topics:

    Amelia Earheart was Codeless, unfortunately  
        Club Stn. U of Illinois??  
            John Ramsey  
        MFJ speaker/mics for Yaesu FT530  
            My HAMBLASTER note  
    Need Info. on exam schedules in New Delhi, India  
        which is better qrp band--30 or 40?  
            wireless cable frequencies.

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: Mon, 14 Feb 1994 20:51:31 GMT  
From: news.Hawaii.Edu!uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu!jherman@ames.arpa  
Subject: Amelia Earheart was Codeless, unfortunately  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2jo50h\$9kt@news.acns.nwu.edu> rdewan@casbah.acns.nwu.edu (Rajiv Dewan)  
writes:

>From: The DX reflector  
>Subject: Amelia Earhart  
>From: ron.chester@1st.spacebbs.com (Ron Chester)  
>Date: Sat, 12 Feb 94 23:30:00 -0800  
>  
>Tonight I saw the last half of a PBS show on Amelia Earhart which I  
>believe most DXers would find interesting. (I missed the beginning, so  
>don't know the name of the program).

>  
>According to the show, Earhart did not especially like radio  
>communication, and did not get properly trained up on radio navigation.  
>For her final around-the-world flight in 1937, she left her Morse Code key  
>at home, as she had never managed to master the code.  
.....

I'd state the obvious moral of this story, but we're not on .policy ....  
[See? I'm able to muster a bit of restraint periodically (once a year).]

=====  
Jeffrey Herman, NH6IL, jherman@hawaii.edu, who, in his spare time, cannibalizes  
old TV sets to make QRP transmitters (CW of course).

Previously: WA6QIJ, WH6AEQ, NMO (U.S. Coast Guard Radio Honolulu: 500kc CW)

It is said that CW is the second most popular mode on HF, but scanning the  
bands I frequently count more CW QSOs than SSB QSOs.

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Date: Wed, 16 Feb 94 13:49:28 GMT  
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx10!wkinning@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Club Stn. U of Illinois??  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Keith Poole <kp2a+@andrew.cmu.edu> writes:

>Is there an amateur radio club station at the University of Illinois at  
>Urbana-Champaign? If so, is it possible for visitors to use it on HF?

>Thanks.

>Keith Poole K7MOA/3

Yes, the name of the club is the Synton Amateur Radio Club, and their  
E-mail address is synton@uiuc.edu. They used to have (still do ?) Friday  
night informal get togethers and work some HF, so that would be a good  
time to stop by and see the club. Otherwise you'd need to organize a  
sched with a club member to use the station.

Warren Kinninger, N9MLK  
wkinning@nyx.cs.du.edu

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Date: 15 Feb 1994 14:41:47 -0600

From: ucsnews!newshub.sdsu.edu!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!  
cs.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: John Ramsey

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Well I will say it flat out: John Ramsey is a liar. I caught him at it first hand and won't go near any of their products anymore.

I purchased one of the original 2 meter transceiver kits. I really like the way the instruction book was organized and you get to test one section before proceeding with the next. I did a real careful job with mine.

It didn't work correctly when I finished. I got a graduate student from the EE program here at the University who is a ham to help me. He found that the crystals weren't cut correctly (while building I noticed some of the components were fine.. many were trash.. the wire kept falling apart).

I called tech support .. spent a bunch of long distance time with a nice gentleman who seemed to know what he was talking about. He informed me that they had received a batch of bad crystals (think he said 400 or so) and they were forced to use them up (couldn't understand this). He told me some procedures to "pad" the crystals to bring them on frequency. My friend helped me get the rig going.. not perfectly..but I have been using it for packet for about 2 years now.. only had to mess with it 3 or 4 times.

Well I got so mad at this concept that I wrote Mr. Ramsey a nice letter. It was strong enough so that he paid for the phone call to call me. He wanted to know who the tech. was.. (sounded like he was going to fire him).. and INSISTED the tech lied and there was absolutely nothing wrong with the crystals.. he stated the extra instructions tell you how to pad the crystals... and in very technical terms proceeded to tell me this was normal.. I was a new ham with no background in electronics at the time.. he sure sounded full of it. I decided not to press the matter and told him I thought he should have just replaced the crystals.

At the time there were long discussions about MANY people experiencing the same difficulties I had... some people got their's to work right away (probably lucked out and got good crystals). There was also all types of problems in the alignment with having to stretch some of the coils way out of shape to get power out of the TX.

I recently heard that John Ramsey said some pretty bad things about me to a customer over the phone.. don't know where that came from.. think this guy is VERY disreputable.

Anyway, Ten Tec is suppose to come out with a nice 2 meter fm transceiver kit in the near future.

73

Jeff, AC4HF

-----  
Date: Tue, 15 Feb 1994 18:02:42 GMT  
From: news@lanl.gov  
Subject: MFJ speaker/mics for Yaesu FT530  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <wylzCL9KEu.9qs@netcom.com>, <wylz@netcom.com> writes:

> Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc  
> Path:  
lanl!ncar!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!sdd.hp.com!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!howland.reston.ans.n  
et!agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!wylz  
> From: wylz@netcom.com (Scott Ehrlich)  
> Subject: MFJ speaker/mics for Yaesu FT530  
> Message-ID: <wylzCL9KEu.9qs@netcom.com>  
> Organization: NETCOM On-line Communication Services (408 241-9760 guest)  
> Distribution: usa  
> Date: Tue, 15 Feb 1994 11:40:05 GMT  
> Lines: 21  
>  
>  
> I am considering getting an MFJ speaker/mic for my FT530 mainly due to  
> the price.  
>  
> How is the performance? I'm concentrating on the models which offer an  
> earphone jack in the plug itself and some sort of alligator (sp?) clip  
> for the belt. I'm also going for compactness. (Basically, a clip like  
> Radio Shack mics in the size of the standard Yaesu MH-18A2B mics).  
>  
Forget the price save your money and buy the digital speaker for the 530  
It in itself is reason to buy the 530 over an Icom or Kenwood. It is the  
most convient handheld accessory I have ever owned.  
> Keeping all of this in mind, how the does the net respond?  
>  
> Thank much.  
>  
> Scott  
>  
>  
> --

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>
=====
> | Scott Ehrlich           Internet: wy1z@neu.edu      BITNET: wy1z@NUHUB   |
> | Amateur Radio: wy1z      AX.25: wy1z@k1ugm.ma.usa.na
|
>
|-----|
> | Maintainer of the Boston Amateur Radio Club hamradio FTP area on      |
> |   the World - world.std.com  pub/hamradio                               |
>
=====

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Date: 15 Feb 94 12:54:38
From: idacrd.ccr-p.ida.org!idacrd!n4hy@uunet.uu.net
Subject: My HAMBLASTER note
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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The response to my note on the Soundblaster and Hamblaster cards has been overwhelming. The notes number in the hundred. I had no idea there was so much interest. I cannot possibly hope to answer all of these notes and I hope you will accept my apologies for not doing so.

I will keep the news groups posted as to what becomes available when.

Bob

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--
Robert W. McGwier           | n4hy@ccr-p.ida.org Interests: ham radio,
Center for Communications Research | scouts, astronomy, golf (o yea, & math!)
Princeton, N.J. 08520        | ASM Troop 5700, ACM Pack 53 Hightstown
(609)-279-6240(v) (609)-924-3061(f) | I used to be a Buffalo . . . NE III-120

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Date: 16 Feb 1994 13:29:02 GMT
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!news.dtc.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!
hpuerca.atl.hp.com!kpm@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Need Info. on exam schedules in New Delhi, India
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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A friend of mine would like to get his first Amateur Radio license in New Delhi, India. He requested the Amateur Radio Institute, Hyderabad, India to send him the information. He only received study materials but no exam schedule. Since Amateur Radio exams are held very infrequently and location varies every year. He would like to get in touch with Amateur Radio operators in New Delhi area. If someone on the net has an International Call Sign direct-

Best Regards,  
Kaushik Mehta (KE4IHB)

Vietnamese Proverb: If you study you will become what you wish  
If you do not study you will never become anything.

=====  
-----  
Date: 16 Feb 94 20:04:53 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: wireless cable frequencies.  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

somewhere i thought i had info on where the wireless cable guys were supposed to be located. can't find it now -- certainly someone here has the information - more out of curiosity than anything else -- we know the format of transmission to be relatively secure.

the wireless catv guys are using a wide variety of antennas around here and we're trying to figure out exactly why 2 houses side by side would need vastly different antennas...unless there's more to it than just that.

early reports indicate that the wireless cable guys are beating the local CATV outlet (time-warner) on both quality of delivered picture (we have yet to see how it looks in the rain) & on price (free disney, no junk shopping channels and a minimum of bible thumpers for about a buck less).

thanks,

bill wb9ivr%pubs%genav.mlb@ns14.cca.cr.rockwell.com

-----  
Date: 15 Feb 1994 17:34:44 GMT  
From: koriel!newsworthy.West.Sun.COM!abyss.West.Sun.COM!pongo!myers@ames.arpa  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Feb3.190229.8136@arrl.org>, <x8yqthx.jramsey@delphi.com>, <2jqu8k\$96m@news.acns.nwu.edu>  
Subject : Ramsey slams ARRL (was Re: RAMSEY FX TRANSCEIVER)

In article <2jqu8k\$96m@news.acns.nwu.edu> rdewan@casbah.acns.nwu.edu (Rajiv Dewan) writes:

>In article <x8yqthx.jramsey@delphi.com>, <jramsey@delphi.com> wrote:

>>Jon Bloom (KE3Z) <jbloom@arrl.org> writes:

>>

>>>harmonic spectral purity requirements.) They promised to send us one of  
>>>the new units as soon as it became available. (Normally, we only  
>>>\*purchase\* Product Review items, but we decided that it would be hard  
>>>for them to fine-tune a kit :-)

>>> We waited a couple of months, then called Ramsey. To make a long  
>>>story short, we called \*every\* couple of months, but we never received

>>>the promised radio. Finally, we just bought one (through a third  
>>>party). This is the unit we reviewed. In March of 1993, we contacted  
>>  
>>And one wonders why we don't advertise in QST, it's the attitude of  
>>history re-writers such as J.B. I was there, and the facts just ain't so.  
>>I'd rather talk on the phone! But I had to respond to such talk. You see, the  
>>ARRL couldn't get their kit to work! So we sent them an assembled unit.  
>  
>I do not know how you read this, but to me it looks like bad news for  
>buildability of Ramsey Kits.

>>Yes it did not meet the FCC specs for spurious - missing by about a db or  
>>two ( I'm at home and don't have notes handy). The ARRL missed the whole  
>>point of the kit which was to promote kit building, etc,etc. Now. I'm  
>>sure you are thinking, "but it didn't meet FCC!" True, but for a fascinating  
>>contrast, look at the GLOWING review of the MFJ regen receiver! Guess it  
>>doesn't spray RF.I do believe that MFJ has been quite a big QST advertiser, too.  
>>No, you'll not see a Ramsey ad in QST. It was years ago that I was approached  
>>by a QST ad director to advertise. He expounded how QST was looking out for the  
>>amateur, requiring test units before accepting ads. I responded that they had  
>>plenty of ad pages from DSI, a since defunct freq ctr mfg who sold trash and  
>>was openly taking \$\$ for products they had no intention of shipping! Of this is  
>>the virtue you speak? Well, DSI closed shop, took QST readers for hundreds of  
>>thousands of dollars and even stuck that nice old ad director too!  
>>Yes, I'm hot and seeing this kangaroo (sp?) court makes me long for my work-  
>>bench rather than this CRT. I don't have the luxury of getting paid to  
>>read and respond to everything here - but I do welcome phone calls to myself  
>>at the office (716) 924-4560. Just ask for me.

>I do not know about others, but talking of follies and foibles of DSI and MFJ  
>does not make Ramsey kits seem any better in my mind.

When I returned John's call, he spent some time bad-mouthing the ARRL  
and one other individual \*by name\*. I asked John not to use names, but  
he insisted. I mean, a couple of high-profile customers have trouble  
with his product, John's response is "they can't build kits". To  
actually mention people by name and say they can't build kits is poor  
customer relations. I contacted the other individual John bad-mouthed  
and asked for his side of the story; for what it is worth, this  
gentleman was at least as credible as John. It seems that, if you  
have nice things to say about Ramsey kits, John will say nice things  
about you. If you have any kind of trouble with Ramsey kits, you run  
the risk of being slandered.

--

\* Dana H. Myers KK6JQ, DoD 466 | Views expressed here are \*  
\* (310) 348-6043 | mine and do not necessarily \*



\* Dana.Myers@West.Sun.Com | reflect those of my employer \*  
\* This Extra supports the abolition of the 13 and 20 WPM tests \*

-----  
Date: Wed, 16 Feb 1994 10:21:21 GMT  
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!swrinde!emory!wa4mei.ping.com!ke4zv!  
gary@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Feb11.030138.403@megatek.com>, <CL2txF.8EJ@srgenprp.sr.hp.com>,  
<2jqilt\$rer@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu>  
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman)  
Subject : Re: Nude amateur radio clubs

In article <2jqilt\$rer@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu> jm6033@pegasus (John W. Meaker) writes:  
>  
> I'm curious about nude QSL cards. Would anyone be offended if they  
>received a QSL card in the mail with nude people on it? Would it be  
>better to mail the card in an envelope? The envelope increases the  
>cost of mailing a QSL considerably, and cost a consideration when you  
>mail many cards.

It rather much depends on what the nude people look like. Some people  
shouldn't appear in public nude. Ugh!

Gary

--  
Gary Coffman KE4ZV | You make it, | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary  
Destructive Testing Systems | we break it. | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary  
534 Shannon Way | Guaranteed! | emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary  
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | |

-----  
Date: Mon, 14 Feb 1994 21:07:48 GMT  
From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!  
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!  
tweek@ames.arpa  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Feb9.062429.26976@pixar.com>, <20345.553.uupcb@brent.uucp>,  
<CL7yB7.III@cbnewse.cb.att.com>ng.gtefs  
Subject : Re: FCC Daily Digests for the

In article <CL7yB7.III@cbnewse.cb.att.com> posted to the Usenet Newsgroup(s)  
rec.radio.amateur.misc

parnass@cbnewse.cb.att.com (Bob Parnass, AJ9S) writes:

>

>Bruce:

>

>Thanks for the FCC postings. I share them with other people  
>on my project. If there is a better way to obtain them, please  
>let me know.

Yes, I found them informative as well.

Maybe the other poster is partly right about them having "nothing"  
(Not MUCH... see the Vanity Call Signs?) to do with Amateur Radio...  
But I don't believe that a separate newsgroup needs to be created.

REC.RADIO.INFO might be fine for this purpose in that it can cater  
to the entire rec.radio.\* subdivisions.

tweek@netcom.com tweek@tweekco.uucp WWIVNet 1@511 DoD #MCMLX  
I'd rather get my cable service from the phone company,  
than my phone service from the cable company.

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Date: 16 Feb 1994 14:03:26 GMT

From: agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!wvhorn@ames.arpa

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Feb11.030138.403@megatek.com>, <CL2txF.8EJ@srgenprp.sr.hp.com>,  
<2jqilt\$rer@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu>

Subject : Re: Nude amateur radio clubs

In article <2jqilt\$rer@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu>,  
John W. Meaker <jm6033@pegasus> wrote:

> I'm curious about nude QSL cards. Would anyone be offended if they  
>received a QSL card in the mail with nude people on it? Would it be  
>better to mail the card in an envelope? The envelope increases the  
>cost of mailing a QSL considerably, and cost a consideration when you  
>mail many cards.

Even the \*thought\* of receiving a QSL card with a nude picture of the average  
ham on it is enough to offend me. I mean, seriously, folks. Leaf through  
any QST of recent (or even ancient) vintage, look at the pictures of the  
hams and imagine seeing them nude.

It's enough to make one take up needlepoint.

---Bill VanHorne

-----  
Date: 16 Feb 94 14:05:08 GMT  
From: slinky.cs.nyu.edu!slinky.cs.nyu.edu!nobody@nyu.arpa  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CKo0uy.HzJ@srigenprp.sr.hp.com>, <2j63p1\$jlpslinky.cs.nyu.edu>,  
<2jp6ie\$129@bigfoot.wustl.edu>1  
Subject : Re: A code speed question

In article <2jp6ie\$129@bigfoot.wustl.edu> jlw3@cec3.wustl.edu (Jesse L Wei)  
writes:

>Here's a question for you. . .after copying by keyboard, can you copy  
>by hand still????

I have actually never copied a single character by hand yet. I am still  
very new to learning the code and every second has been spent on the  
computer. I received my first bad mark for handwriting in the second  
grade and was programming computers by the sixth. The writing has only  
gotten worse and the typing has moved to 70wpm since then.

Maybe I'll bring a notebook computer with me, accompanied by a little  
begging. :-)

Steve

--

Steven Jackson  
Assistant to the Chair of Comp Sci  
jackson@cs.nyu.edu, jcksnte@acfccluster  
New York University  
Courant Inst. of Mathematical Sciences  
251 Mercer St, Room 411, NY 10012  
"Not in my head.. so I don't have to think.." -- Nik Fiend

-----  
Date: Wed, 16 Feb 1994 19:45:35 GMT  
From: library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!greg@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <gregCKI0zw.Kuo@netcom.com>, <1994Feb3.190229.8136@arrl.org>,  
<x8yqthx.jramsey@delphi.com>  
Subject : Re: RAMSEY FX TRANSCEIVER

In article <x8yqthx.jramsey@delphi.com> jramsey@delphi.com writes:

>

>And one wonders why we don't advertise in QST, it's the attitude of  
>history re-writers such as J.B. I was there, and the facts just ain't so.

I have no doubt that there was some mis-communication. Only a very stupid business would snub \*the\* trade publication, on purpose. Seems to me that \*BOTH\* John and Jon have a bit of a tendency to handle negative feed-back defensively, as opposed to trying to figure out why someone got the impression they did from their respective organizations.

>I'd rather talk on the phone!

Actually, John, there have been a couple of stories related concerning phone conversations that net.hams have had with you. Some have been satisfactory to your customers. Others apparently have not.

> But I had to respond to such talk. You see, the  
>ARRL couldn't get their kit to work!

Not exactly a ringing endorsement of the product, or a reason to recommend it to a newcomer, is it?

> So we sent them an assembled unit.

...which ought to have worked perfectly...

>Yes it did not meet the FCC specs for spurious - missing by about a db or  
>two ( I'm at home and don't have notes handy).

The point is, what is (by your account) your best effort yielded a rig which was illegal to use on the air. That (by your account) it was a Ramsey-completed unit only makes the company look worse.

> The ARRL missed the whole  
>point of the kit which was to promote kit building, etc,etc.

I don't think I understand... ...do you mean that you intend for us to build your products, but not USE them? Or do you feel that your service to the amateur community in providing kits for hands-on training overrides your obligation to provide a legal and functional product? I mean, generally, when I see an ad for an 'Amateur 2-meter Transceiver' and that is a new item, I expect that it will meet the standards for use on that band. Is that an unreasonable expectation?

> Now. I'm  
>sure you are thinking, "but it didn't meet FCC!"

Yes. Correct. Damn straight. Because that, John, is the bottom line. It

is not QST's responsibility that your product didn't come up to the standards that \*ALL\* amateur equipment is measured against. And they have not wronged you by pointing it out. On the contrary, they have done more than they had to by giving you the opportunity to take corrective action, and offering a limited endorsement, rather than outright panning it. And, it is worth noting, they held back on reviewing your initial product, which also showed some defects. They've really been pretty good to you. Not a few of us would have preferred them \*NOT\* to cut Ramsey such slack.

> True, but for a fascinating  
>contrast, look at the GLOWING review of the MFJ regen receiver! Guess it  
>doesn't spray RF. I do believe that MFJ has been quite a big QST advertiser, too.  
Interesting question, but I can't help thinking that you're trying to distract from the issue of \*your\* product. And of course I would note that I have seen at least one 'GLOWING' review of your product in a magazine in which YOU advertise. A review/article which, by the way, missed some of the pitfalls.

>No, you'll not see a Ramsey ad in QST. It was years ago that I was approached  
>by a QST ad director to advertise. He expounded how QST was looking out for the  
>amateur, requiring test units before accepting ads. I responded that they had  
>plenty of ad pages from DSI, a since defunct freq ctr mfg who sold trash and  
>was openly taking \$\$ for products they had no intention of shipping! Of this is  
>the virtue you speak? Well, DSI closed shop, took QST readers for hundreds of  
>thousands of dollars and even stuck that nice old ad director too!

So how does all of that explain why \*your\* ads aren't there? Have you refused to cooperate? What does DSI have to do with your company?

>Yes, I'm hot and seeing this kangaroo (sp?) court

Indeed. Seems as though you don't have much of a regard for your customers' opinions. My impression is that the FX kits have been described here as sometimes problematic, and sometimes very good. Note has been taken of hard data supplied by the ARRL. And subjective performance evaluations have been shared. And you yourself seem to hint that you regard them as more educational than functional (the 'point' above).

The only time it got really personal seems to have been in the descriptions of a couple of individuals' encounters with you by telephone.

Unfortunately, the manner of your posting tends to lend credence to the implication that your response to concerns about the quality of the FM transceiver lines is a bit on the, well, 'defensive' side.

> makes me long for my work-  
>bench rather than this CRT.

Probably not a bad idea. While you're there, perhaps you might look into the challenge of producing a kit from which it is possible for average (or lesser) builders to get consistent results. If it were me, I guess I'd look into offering the option of pre-assembled rf sections,

Admittedly, this is a tough problem, tougher than it was at the time Heathkit had to face it. But if the kit industry is to be viable as more than a curiosity, face it it must.

> I don't have the luxury of getting paid to  
>read and respond to everything here - but I do welcome phone calls to myself  
>at the office (716) 924-4560. Just ask for me.

John, you seem to want things... ...the reviews, how you talk to customers, how your products are discussed, to be on your terms. With respect, I don't think that's a realistic expectation.

Greg

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #162

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